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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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Research and Technology

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1. In early August 1954, the Central Office for Research and Technology (ZAFT), of the East German State Planning Commission, started to register all Work Circles (Arbeitskreise) for Research and Technology which were in existence in East Germany as of 1 August 1954, and at the same time to draw up a list of all those Work Circles which were in the process of being established and which were to be established in the near future. This record was prepared by all Technical Referente working in ZAFT and was completed in late August 1954. The list was then forwarded to Prof. Werner Lange, the head of ZAFT. In September, 1954, the consolidated list - after approval by Lange - was to be returned to the Technical Referente of the two main scientific departments of ZAFT. The Referente, together with their department heads, were then to coordinate the list with the heads of the Main Administrations and the Technical Referente in the Ministries of the East German government (or in other "central organizations" of the government).
2. The ZAFT record of the Work Circles was to list the name of each Work Circle, its field of activity, its supervising authority, the members of the Work Circles and ZAFT nominees for the offices of chairman, deputy chairman and secretaries, the number and names of the Work Groups (Arbeitsgruppen) for each Work Circle and nominees for the office of chairman only for the Work Groups.
3. The provisory ZAFT record of Work Circles already in existence and those to be founded in the near future had to be approved by the State Planning Commission. It provided that the smaller number of Work Circles would be under the jurisdiction of ZAFT and the larger number under the jurisdiction of Ministries, State Secretariats, and "other competent central organizations of the government of the East German Democratic Republic". However, the Work Circles proposed to come under ZAFT jurisdiction were those of "cross-sectional" character, i.e. they were engaged in research and development in fields of acknowledged economic importance, ~~and~~ research and development in a relatively large number of institutes and enterprises, and ~~and~~ research which is carried out in various institutes and enterprises which technically belong under different ministries.

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4. New Work Circles to be founded in the near future were mainly to be concerned with research and development for machine construction, particularly for the metal industry. ZAFI and the Ministry for Machine Construction, as well as the Ministry for Heavy Industry, in August 1954 were completing plans for the early establishment of a number of such Work Circles.
5. Up to August 1954, all Work Circles in existence were still under the sole jurisdiction of ZAFI. After the list of Work Circles was completed
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- 1/ Comment. That is, it was to be indicated whether a Work Circle would be under the jurisdiction of ZAFI or under the jurisdiction of a Ministry, State Secretariat, or "other competent central organizations of the government of the East German Democratic Republic", according to the text of the decree of 24 June 1954 concerning the establishment of central Work Circles for Research and Technology.

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